

with substantially no synerisis, said linear random copolymer in the form of a plurality of linear chains having a plurality of molecular weights greater than or equal to a minimum gelling molecular weight cutoff, and excluding a substantial amount of copolymer chains or polymer chains having molecular weights less than the minimum gelling molecular weight cutoff;

- b. an aqueous solvent mixed with said reversible gelling copolymer as a reversible gelling solution; and
- c. a therapeutic agent mixed with said reversible gelling solution as said therapeutic agent carrier.

In the event that the Examiner does not find the amendments sufficient to place the claims in conditions for allowance, the Applicant respectfully requests that they be entered to place the claims in better condition for appeal.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 and (claims 2-12 by virtue of dependency) have been amended to recite the limitation that gelation occurs upon heating. Support for this amendment may be found at pages 13, lines 13-16. No new matter is added thereby. Pursuant to rule 121(c)(3), the version of the amended claims to show changes made is submitted in a separate paper enclosed herein.

REMARKS

The Examiner has asserted that the Applicant's prior amendment that the linear random copolymer is less than about 10 mole% and greater than or equal to about 1 mole% is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the invention was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner has asserted that the limitation that the linear random copolymer is greater than or equal to about 1 mole% is new matter.